

## Waratah Anemone *Actinia tenebrosa*

### Where to look:

Mid to lower shore (mid to low tide). Rock pools, crevices and under surfaces of rocks; can be seen in WA, SA, TAS, NSW, QLD

Bright red, reddish-brown to dark purple in colour

Always attached to a hard surface

Many long tentacles surrounding a central mouthpart

Size: up to 8 cm

### Similar species:

Two other types of anemones are commonly found in intertidal areas, the green anemone and the sand anemone, both of which can live together with the waratah anemone. Green anemones are bright green, olive or brown in colour and also live on hard surfaces. Sand anemones are clear to light brown or green in colour and often have horizontal bands on their tentacles. Sand anemones live only in sand (not on rock) and are often covered in sand or grit. Waratah anemones only live on rock and their tentacles are always only one colour.



*Images courtesy of ClimateWatch user Lydia Borg and A. Burberry*